

Message Text

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17

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AGRE-00 USIA-15 AID-05 EB-07 EUR-12 COME-00

ISO-00 TRSE-00 AF-08 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /131 W
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1603

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: WFP, FAO, OCON

SUBJECT: 70TH FAO COUNCIL - WORLD FOOD PROGRAM; 14TH ANNUAL
REPORT OF GOVERNING BODY

1. DISCUSSION OF ITEM 10 WAS LIVELY BUT LARGELY NON-CONTROVERSIAL AND THE REPORT WAS ACCEPTED WITH WARM ENDORSEMENT AND COMPLIMENTS TO THE PROGRAM. GUINEA ONLY DELEGATION TO RAISE THE VIETNAM QUESTION. OTHER COMMENTS WERE GENERALLY IN FAVOR OF MORE FLEXIBILITY INCLUDING INCREASED SALES OF COMMODITIES, TRIANGULAR TRANSACTIONS, INCREASED PURCHASES IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, ELIGIBILITY OF ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES FOR ASSISTANCE (POCKETS OF POVERTY ARGUMENT), INCREASING THE CEILING ON EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE, FULLER IMPLEMENTATION OF EMERGENCY RESERVE (7TH SPECIAL SESSION), SUPPORT FOR COORDINATING ROLE FOR WFP PARTICULARLY IN EMERGENCIES, AND CALLS FOR INCREASED CONTRIBUTIONS. AID TO LEBANON RECEIVED SPECIAL ATTENTION AND WAS USED TO STRENGTHEN ARGUMENT FOR HIGHER LIMITS ON EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE. CONTINUED SUPPORT TO NEWLY INDEPENDENT AND LIBERATION MOVEMENTS ALSO WAS EVIDENT. IN GENERAL THE THEME WAS: DOING FINE; MORE OF EVERYTHING.

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2. NONE OF THE PROPOSALS WERE NEW, BUT THERE WAS INCREASED

EMPHASIS ON SOME ITEMS SUCH AS THE ELIGIBILITY OF ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES, PUSHED PRIMARILY BY LATINOS, WHILE AT SAME TIME CONCEDING THAT FIRST PRIORITY SHOULD CONTINUE TO BE TO MSA'S AND LDC'S. INDIA, JORDAN, INDONESIA, AND BANGLADESH PUSHED FOR MORE FLEXIBILITY IN THE SALES POLICY. SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EMERGENCY RESERVE SCHEME WAS FAIRLY GENERAL BUT THERE WAS NO QUARREL WITH OPERATIONAL PRINCIPLES AND POLITICIES AGREED AT CFA-1 AND INCLUDED IN THE REPORT TO THE COUNCIL.

3. GUINEA'S VIETNAM THRUST, WHICH INCLUDED A STATEMENT THAT THIS SHOULD BE A PRIORITY AREA, WAS WELL HANDLED BY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ROBINSON WHO INTERPRETED IT AS A QUESTION AND REPORTED ON PROJECTS PREVIOUSLY APPROVED. THIS RESPONSE CAME NEAR THE CLOSE OF THE DISCUSSION AND ELICITED NO REACTION.BEAUDRY

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